

**CITY OF LODI  
INFORMAL INFORMATIONAL MEETING  
"SHIRTSLEEVE" SESSION  
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2002**

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, February 12, 2002 commencing at 7:03 a.m.

**A. ROLL CALL**

Present: Council Members – Hitchcock, Howard, Land, and Nakanishi

Absent: Council Members – Mayor Pennino

Also Present: City Manager Flynn, City Attorney Hays, and City Clerk Blackston

**B. CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR UPDATE**

City Clerk Blackston reviewed the weekly calendar (filed).

**C. TOPIC(S)**

**C-1 "Transit Operations"**

Carlos Tobar, Transportation Manager, explained that the purpose of today's meeting is to obtain direction from Council as to how much money to request from the San Joaquin Council of Governments (COG) for Measure K funds for Lodi's transit operations. After COG reviews the request and replies with an amount, staff will return to Council for approval of routes, as well as a new contract for Laidlaw transit services through June 30, 2003.

Mr. Tobar explained that the City is using funds from Measure K, Transportation Development Act, and Farebox for its transit operations through June 30, 2003. Because the City is not using federal funds for operations, the contract to Laidlaw could be extended. If federal funds are used, contracts are limited to a maximum of five years.

Mr. Tobar reported that fixed route service has not changed in five years, and commented that there has been significant development during this time. He reviewed the existing GrapeLine routes and proposed routes (filed) as follows:

Proposed Express Route 1:

Will provide services from new neighborhoods to Lodi High School Monday through Friday, with three runs each morning and afternoon. Operating cost is estimated at \$9,800 per year; \$6,500 in Measure K funds will be requested.

In reply to Council Member Howard, Mr. Tobar projected that 54 new riders on this route will be needed to break even.

Proposed Express Route 2:

Will provide direct service to Lodi High School. Currently there are 60 passengers on the Ham and Kettleman Lane transfer to Route 2. It is hoped that this proposed route would reduce overcrowding. There would be three runs each morning and afternoon, 181 days per year at an operating cost of \$9,800 per year; \$6,500 in Measure K funds will be requested.

Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock asked if there was an option to the transfer on the route.

Mr. Tobar replied that students could enter the bus when the doors open at the required stop at the railroad tracks, thus creating a "seamless transfer."

Proposed Modified Route 5:

This route would run Monday through Friday three times per hour in the mornings and afternoons, and is designed to accommodate employees of WorkNet, Lodi Unified School District Administration, Central Valley Waste Services, Blue Shield, and Pacific Coast Producers. Operating cost is estimated at \$54,000 per year; \$35,000 in Measure K funds will be requested.

In reply to Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock, Mr. Tobar explained that this route was created because of promises for fixed-route service that Economic Development Coordinator Tony Goehring made to some businesses that were considering relocating to Lodi's industrial area. He also noted that an agreement with COG for a trolley bus was made with the understanding that Lodi would provide transit service to the industrial area.

Council Member Nakanishi requested that Council be provided with an update in 12 months on the status of these proposed routes.

Proposed Route 6:

The higher cost of this route is due to the daily schedule and number of runs, which include 17 runs Monday through Friday, 13 runs on Saturday, and 11 runs on Sunday.

In response to questions by Council Member Nakanishi, Mr. Tobar reported that a total of \$158,000 per year through the life of Measure K would be requested. He anticipated returning to Council for approval of the new Laidlaw contract in March, for an increase of 30%. He stated that staff is not recommending an increase in fares. He commented that Lodi has the lowest fares in the state, is ranked second in fixed-route service, and first in Dial-A-Ride service.

Proposed Express Route 6:

Mr. Tobar noted that Century Boulevard is not accessible to bicyclists or pedestrians due to the location of Salas Park. Measure K funds in the amount of \$6,500 will be requested for this route.

Proposed Route 7:

Mr. Tobar stated that no Measure K funds will be requested for this route. Amtrak will be stopping in Lodi at 11:15 a.m. and leaving south at 5:00 p.m. Route 7 is a proposed wine tasting route that will serve the Visitors Center and the following wineries: Jessie's Grove, Lucas, Oak Ridge, Peirano Estates, Phillips, Spenker, VanRuiten-Taylor, and Woodbridge. There would be two half-hour headways leaving at 11:15 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays only. The operating cost is estimated at \$41,400 per year. A charge has not yet been determined. Mr. Tobar suggested that wineries may want to contribute toward the Farebox recovery ratio, so that passengers using Amtrak are not charged for Route 7.

Nancy Wilkinson, Executive Director of the Lodi Conference and Visitors Center, stated that she has received positive comments from wineries about this proposed route and some have mentioned a willingness to subsidize a portion of the cost. She believed that it would be a benefit to Lodi tourism as well as a safety measure because it would help deter alcohol-related driving incidences. She stated that if it is approved the Visitors Center's role would be marketing the route.

Mr. Tobar explained that prior to a request for approval staff would return to Council with more information related to Route 7.

In response to Council inquiries, Mr. Tobar reported that the life of Measure K is through 2010. Reductions in service would result if new transportation sales tax is not authorized. Approximately \$500,000 to \$600,000 a year could be saved by limiting Dial-A-Ride exclusively to the elderly and disabled. He cautioned, however, that five years ago this topic was discussed and there was significant opposition from the public. He reported that transportation bills are now on a five year cycle. Over the last 30 years funding has been available for transportation in small urbanized areas. Mr. Tobar stated that it would

not be necessary to increase fares even after the proposed new services and 30% increase in the Laidlaw contract. He explained that the City receives approximately \$2 million per year from the Transportation Development Act, \$1 million from the Federal Transit Administration, \$250,000 from fares, and \$168,000 from Measure K.

Council Member Howard expressed support for the wine tasting shuttle and other staff recommendations.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock, Mr. Tobar reported that the San Joaquin Regional Transit District has expressed an interest in bidding on the Lodi transit service contract. Pending Council direction, the City can also bid on the contract next December.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- Bob Johnson recalled that Mayor Pro Tempore Hitchcock had asked whether the proposed routes were developed as a result of comments raised at public meetings on unmet transit needs, or whether they were created because staff believed they were necessary. Her question was only partially answered in that the proposed modified Route 5 was developed pursuant to promises made by the Economic Development Director to entice businesses into the community. Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Tobar to respond why the other proposed routes are being recommended.

Mr. Tobar replied indirectly stating that public comments are also received via e-mail, phone calls, comment cards on buses, etc. He added that results from the new service would be demonstrated.

City Manager Flynn announced that a celebration event is being planned for March 18 in recognition of the Amtrak and San Joaquin train service to Lodi.

City Attorney Hays stated that the California Constitution prohibits public officials from accepting free rides on public transportation and violation results in immediate forfeiture of office.

**D. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**E. ADJOURNMENT**

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 a.m.

ATTEST:

Susan J. Blackston  
City Clerk

**Mayor's & Council Member's Weekly Calendar**

**WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12, 2002**

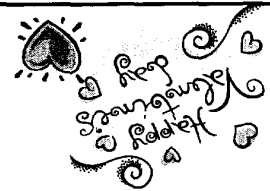
**Tuesday, February 12, 2002**

**7:00 a.m.      Shirtsleeve Session  
1. Transit Operations**

**7:30 - 8:30 a.m.      Assemblyman Pescetti's Community Cabinet meeting,  
Perko's Café.**

**Wednesday, February 13, 2002**

**Thursday, February 14, 2002**



**Friday, February 15, 2002**

**12:00 Noon      Grand opening and ribbon cutting for AT&T Wireless, 2439  
W. Kettleman Lane.**

**Saturday, February 16, 2002**

**Sunday, February 17, 2002**

**Monday, February 18, 2002**

**Reminder      City Hall closed for Presidents' Day**

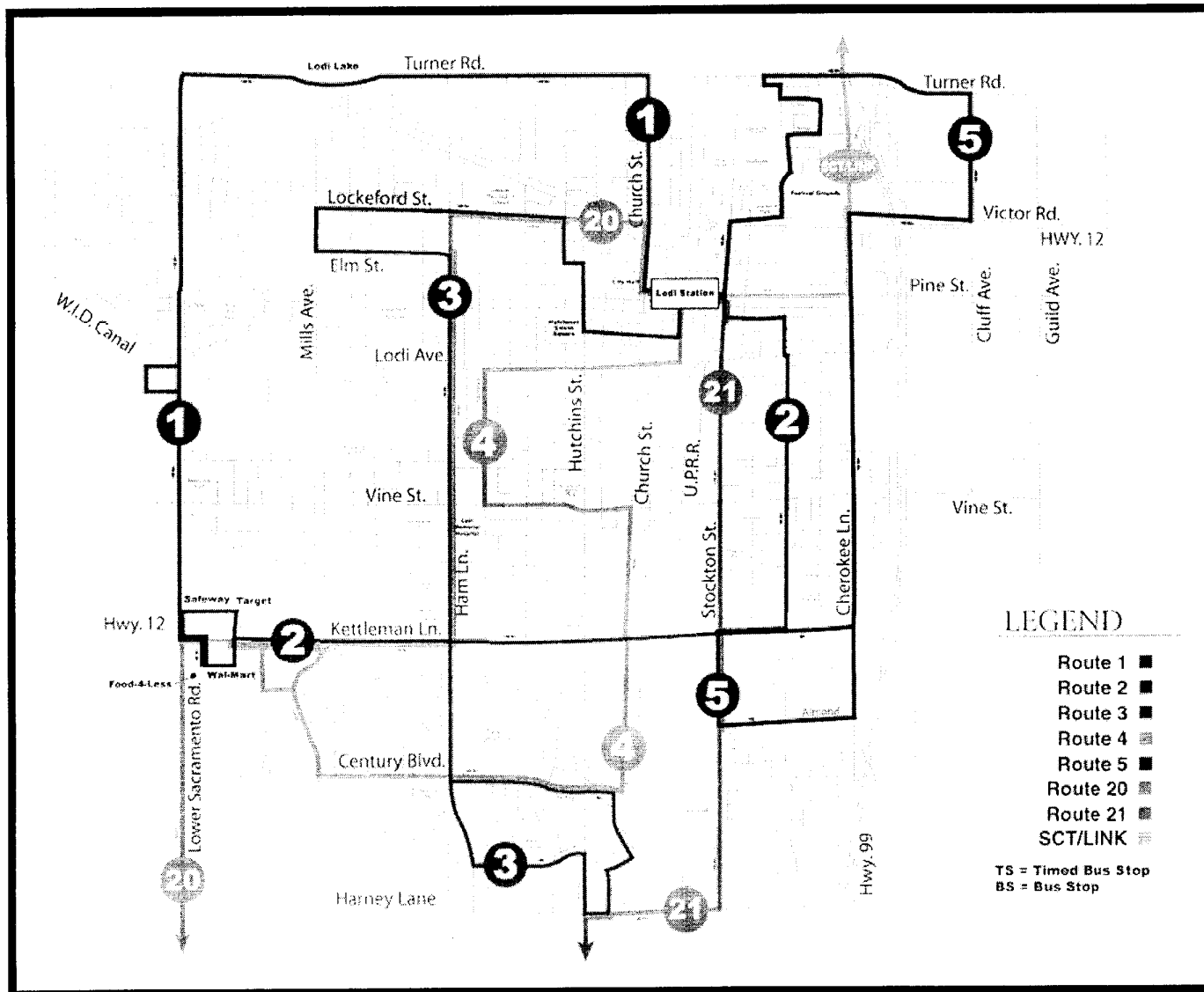


# Proposed Changes to GrapeLine Fixed Route Service

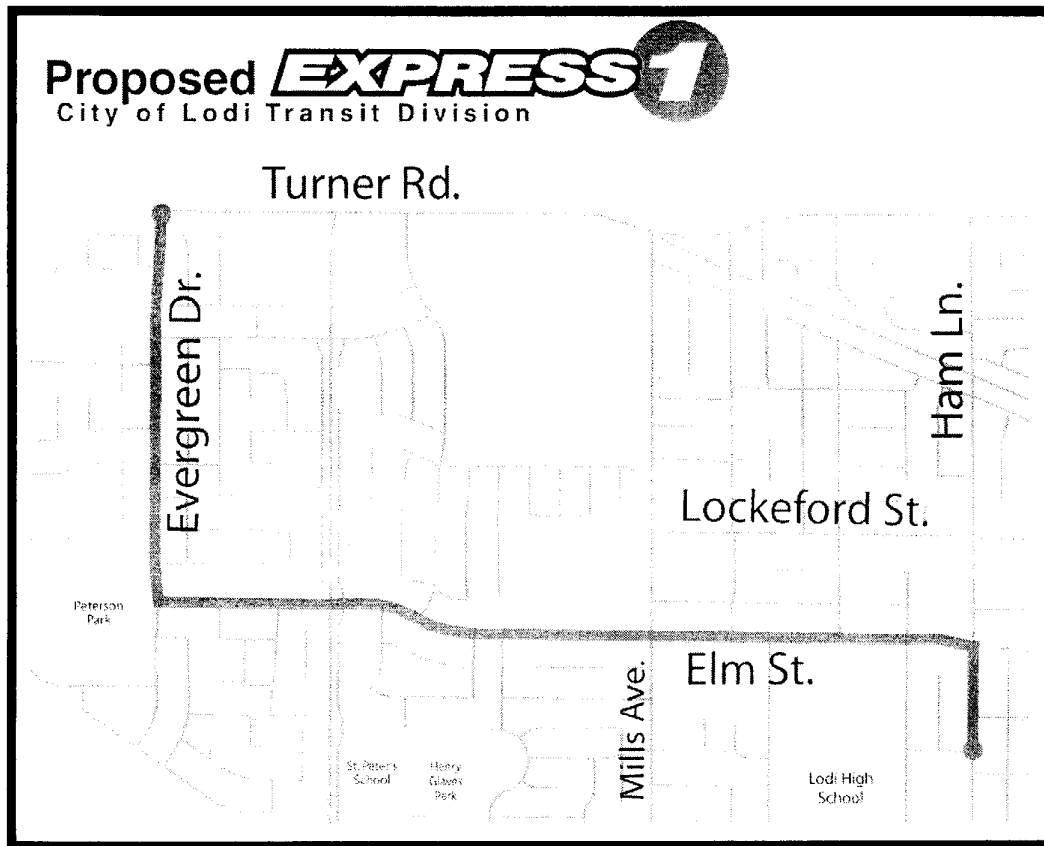
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City of Lodi  
Public Works  
Transit Division

# Existing GrapeLine Routes



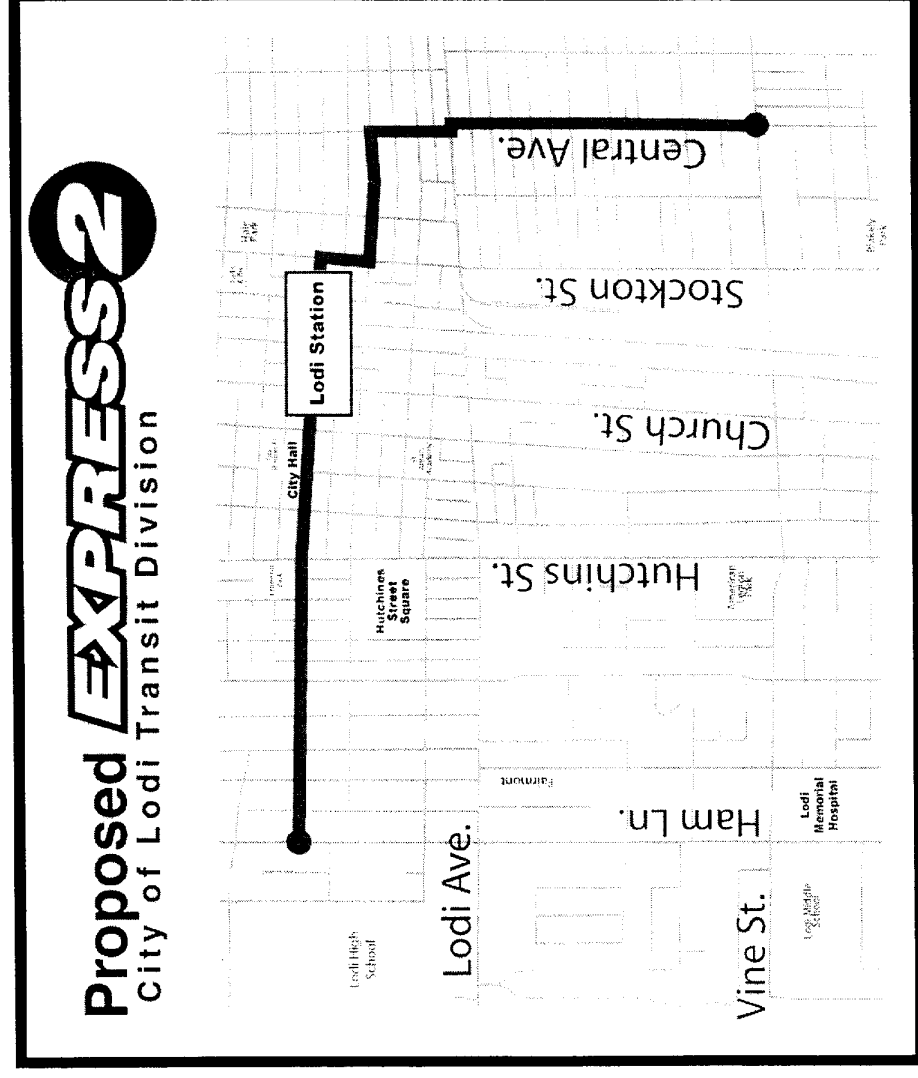
# Proposed Express Route 1



- Provides Service from New Neighborhood to Lodi High School
- Presently no direct route to Lodi High (requires transfer)
- Mon-Fri 2 runs each morning & afternoon; school days only (181 days)
- \$9,800 per year operating cost
- MK Request-\$6,500 per year; balance from TDA/FTA/Farebox

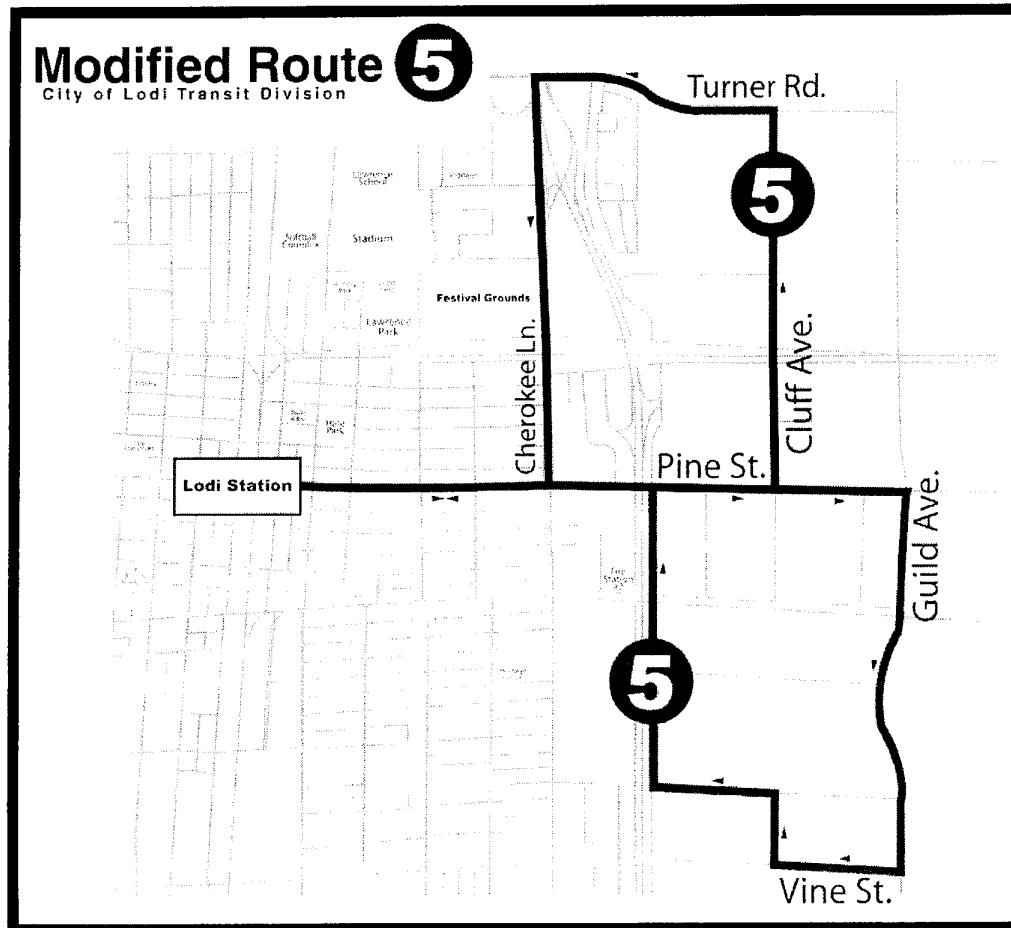
# Proposed Express Route 2

- Provides Direct Service to Lodi High School
- Reduces Overcrowding on Route 2
- Mon-Fri 2 runs each morning & afternoon; school days only (181 days) \$9,800 per year operating cost
- MK Request-\$6,500 per year; balance from TDA/FTA/Farebox





# Proposed Modified Route 5

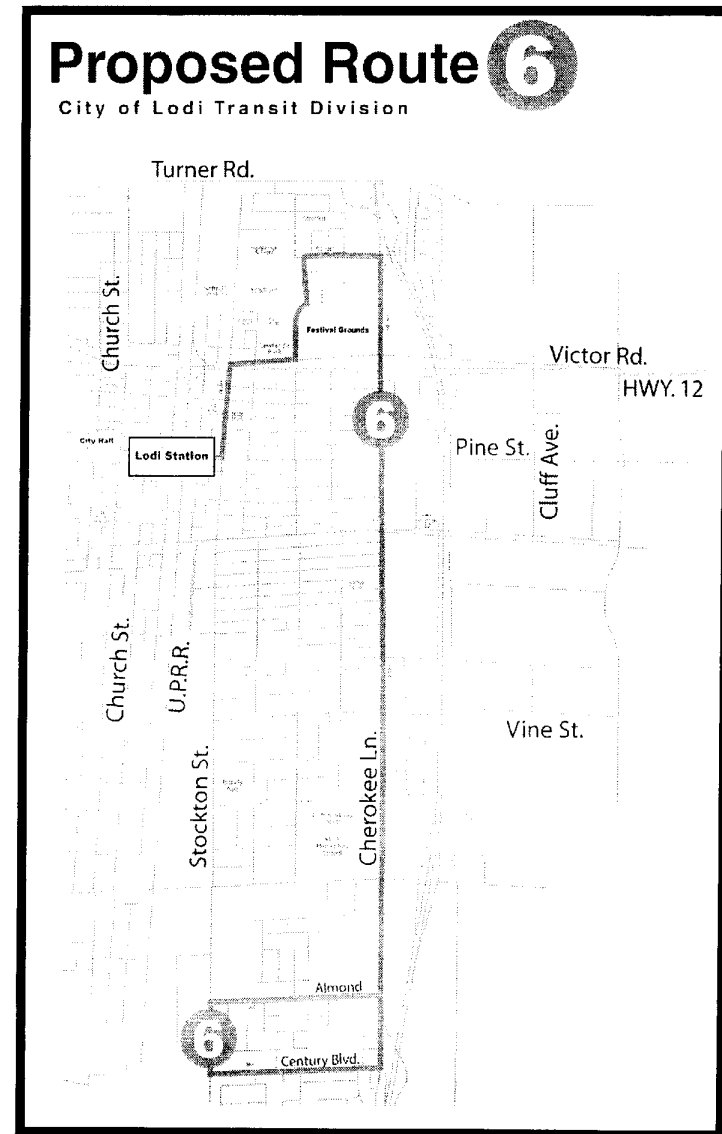


Serving Employees of:

- **Worknet**
- **LUSD Administration**
- **CalWaste**
- **Blue Shield**
- **Pacific Coast Producers**
- Mon-Fri 3 runs per hour in the mornings & afternoons
- \$54,000 per year operating cost
- MK Request-\$35,000 per year; balance from TDA/FTA/Farebox

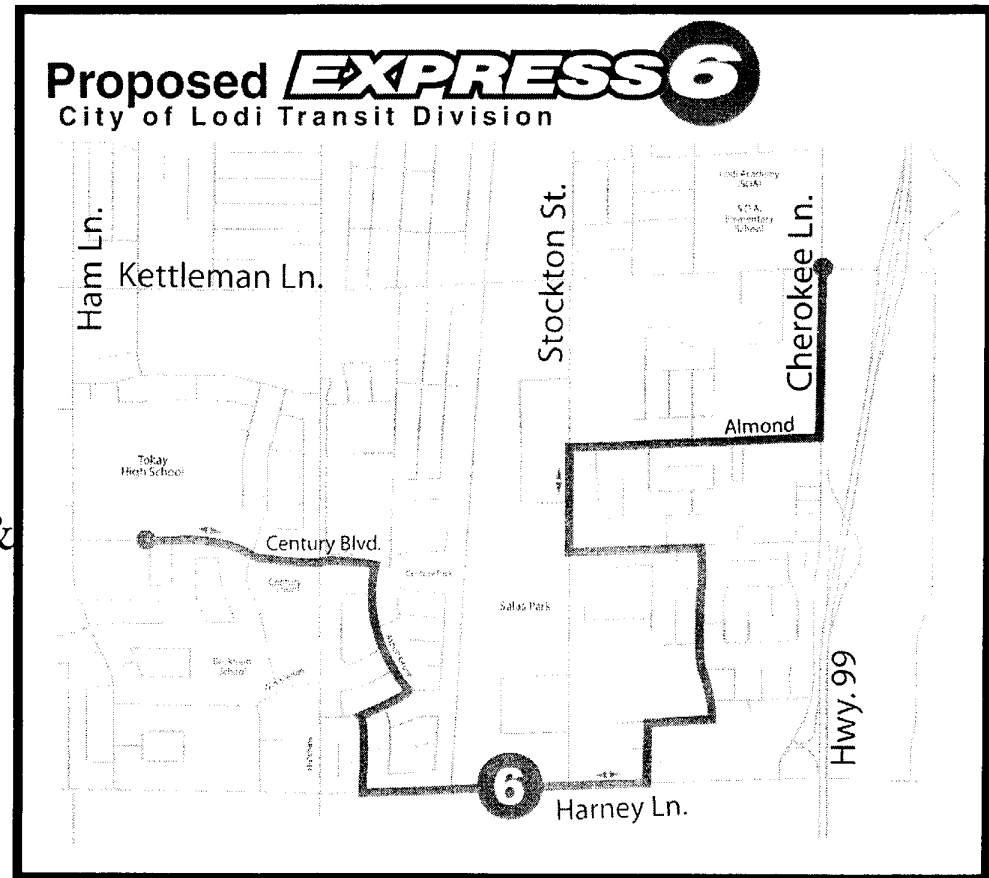
# Proposed Route 6

- Services Businesses Along Cherokee Lane
- Services Transit Dependent Neighborhoods
- Services Commercial Area along Cherokee Lane and Stockton Street
- Everyday-regular schedule
- \$154,000 per year operating cost
- MK Request \$102,000 per year; balance from TDA/FTA/Farebox



# Proposed Express Route 6

- Provides Service From High Density, Transit Dependent Neighborhood
- Provides Service From New Neighborhood to Tokay High School
- Century Blvd. is not accessible to bicyclists and pedestrians
- Mon-Fri 2 runs each morning & afternoon; school days only (181 days) \$9,800 per year operating cost
- MK Request-\$6,500 per year; balance from TDA/FTA/Farebox



# Proposed Route 7 Wine Tasting

- Connects with Amtrak
- Services Lodi Wine & Visitors Center, Jessie's Grove, Lucas, Oak Ridge, Peirano Estates, Phillips, Spenker, VanRuiten-Taylor and Woodbridge by Robert Mondavi
- Saturdays & Sundays
- 11:15am-5:00pm;  
2 half-hour headways
- \$41,400 per year operating cost-Not a MK Request (\$18 per run)



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# San Joaquins

OAKLAND / SACRAMENTO, CA - BAKERSFIELD, CA

The **San Joaquins** will take you to the fun and togetherness of visiting family and friends — to the mesmerizing beauty and wilderness of Yosemite National Park, an Amtrak® Vacations destination (see page 107). You'll travel from San Francisco or Sacramento to Merced, where you'll transfer to Yosemite. With spectacular waterfalls, scenic overlooks and winding trails throughout 1,169 square miles of parkland,



Come take an Amtrak® Adventure to Yosemite National Park (page 107)

Yosemite National Park holds a bit of magic for every traveler. Nearby are Kings Canyon National Park, Sequoia National Park and Death Valley National Park. So be

sure to bring plenty of film!

Another big benefit of the San Joaquins is the Thruway motorcoach service

connecting you to a wide variety of California destinations. At

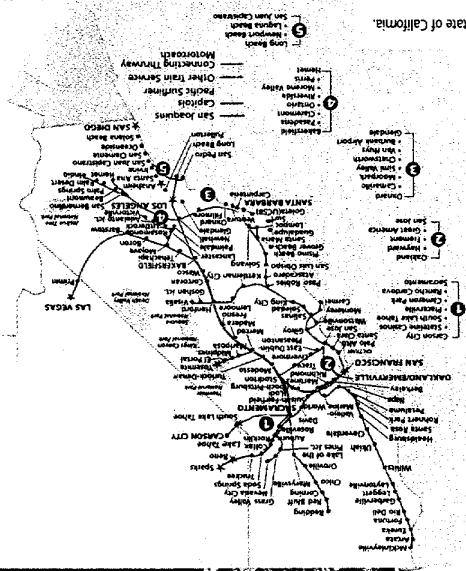
Bakersfield, you can connect to Santa Barbara, Las Vegas, Los

Angeles, Anaheim and San Juan Capistrano. In Hanford you can

connect to Paso Robles, a stop along the **Coast Starlight** route

(page 46). Come with us and enjoy the ride wherever you're going!

San Joaquins service is financed and operated in partnership with the State of California.



Bring your bikes on board and explore the San Joaquin Valley

## HIGHLIGHTS

- SAN FRANCISCO, CA**  
Pier 39, Embarcadero, Sony Metreon, USS Potomac, Artship, Rockridge Market, Jack London Square
- MARTINEZ, CA**  
Six Flags, Marine World, John Muir Museum
- MERCED, CA**  
Yosemite National Park
- SACRAMENTO, CA**  
Old Town Sacramento
- FRESNO, CA**  
Museum of Art, Fresno Art Museum, Meux Home Museum
- BAKERSFIELD, CA**  
Centennial Gardens, Stadium, California Living Museum, Fort Tejon Historical Park

## AT A GLANCE

- FREQUENCY**  
Multiple departures daily
- ACCOMMODATIONS**  
Reserved Coach, Lounge Car, Dining Car
- FOOD**  
Sit-down meals, sandwiches, snacks, drinks in the Dining Car
- ENTERTAINMENT / AMENITIES**  
Bike racks, Electrical outlets, Rafttome®
- TRAVEL TIME**  
1 to 6 hours depending on city pairs

## SPECIAL

- Explore California using the new California Rail Pass (page 76)
- Thruway bus connections to Napa Valley Wine Train
- Hertz® rental car locations: Bakersfield, Emeryville, Fresno, Oakland and Sacramento